

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 HA-05 OMB-01 /081 W

-----104904 240527Z /20

R 231330Z MAR 78

FM AMEMBASSY BERN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5980

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERN 1346

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG UNGA SHUM UNHRC

SUBJ: MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS: ASSESSMENT OF POLITICAL, ECONOMIC,
HUMAN RIGHTS AND SECURITY DEVELOPMENTS AT 32ND UNGA: SWISS VIEW

REF: A) STATE 16347, B) STATE 207; C) STATE 27085

1. EMBASSY POL/ECOUNS SENT "NON-PAPER" BASED ON REFTELS
AND AND B TO AMB FRANCESCA POMETTA, FED POLITICAL DEPT
IO AFFAIRS, AND FOLLOWED UP WITH CALL ON HER MAR 22.

2. AMB POMETTA SAID SHE AND HER COLLEAGUES WERE
MOST GRATEFUL TO HAVE OUR VIEWS. THEY WILL BE MOST
HELPFUL AS THE SWISS ASSESS HOW BEST TO PRESENT UN
A PROPOSAL ON MEMBERSHIP TO A RELUCTANT SWISS PUBLIC.
SHE HAS CIRCULATED THE NON-PAPER TO MEMBERS OF HER
STAFF RESPONSIBLE FOR FORMULATION OF SWISS VIEWS ON
MANY QUESTIONS COVERED BY REFTELS. THERE IS NO
QUESTION THAT SWISS SUPPORT OUR POSITION ON MANAGEMENT
AND BUDGETARY QUESTIONS. MEMBERS OF HER STAFF WILL
HAVE COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS ON OTHER SUBJECTS; WE
ASSURED HER WE WERE AT THEIR DISPOSAL.

3. POMETTA SAID SWITZERLAND HAD PAID INSUFFICIENT
ATTENTION TO HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION, BUT AS DEPT
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IS AWARE, SWITZERLAND DID SEND AN ACTIVE OBSERVER
TO LAST MEETING, WHO SPOKE ON POLITICAL DETAINEES
AND TORTURE. SWITZERLAND HAS CONSULTED AUSTRIANS
AND SWEDES ON THIS ISSUE, AND PLANS ARE UNDERWAY
TO BROADEN CONSULTATIONS. IT HAS BEEN DIFFICULT
TO PERSUADE SWISS UNFAMILIAR WITH PROBLEM THAT INTL
RED CROSS CANNOT HOPE TO DEAL WITH ALL SUCH

QUESTIONS, AND THAT AN INTEGRATED, BROAD-SCALE PROGRAM IS NECESSARY. DRAWING ON REFTTEL C, WE BRIEFED POMETTA ON US ASSESSMENT OF 34TH SESSION OF HRC. SHE HAD NOT RECEIVED A REPORT FROM SWISS UN OBSERVER MISSION, AND WAS NOT IN POSITION TO COMMENT.

4. EMBASSY COMMENT: WE WISH THANK ALL CONCERNED FOR BACKSTOPPING WE ARE RECEIVING FROM WASHINGTON ON MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS. SWISS CAN BE HELPFUL ON MANY ISSUES, BUT IN ORDER TO BE MOST EFFECTIVE THEY NEED TO KNOW WHAT OUR POSITION IS AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE. (SEE SEPTTEL ON ILO AS EXAMPLE).
WARNER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HUMAN RIGHTS, SECURITY, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Litigation Codes:
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